

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 DHA-05 /078 W

-----123618 310449Z /14

O R 310410Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8487

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL UDORN

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 1243

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR LA TH SHUM PDIP

SUBJECT: NONG KHAI-THA DEUA BORDER POINT CLOSED

1. EMBOFF CHAMBERLIN TELEPHONED EMBASSY, AT 1000 HOURS LOCAL TIME AUGUST 31, FROM NONG KHAI, THAILAND, TO REPORT THAT THE BORDER CROSSING POINT AT NONG KHAI-THA DEUA HAS BEEN CLOSED.

2. ACCORDING TO REPORT, NONG KHAI GOVERNOR EXPLAINED TO EMBOFF AND OTHER VIENTIANE DIPLOMATS STRANDED IN NONG KHAI THAT 69 REFUGEES (MOSTLY CHINESE) ARRIVED IN NONG KHAI ON AUGUST 30 HAVING "BOUGHT THEIR WAY OUT OF LAOS." THE THAI HAVE DEMANDED THAT THE LAO ACCEPT THE 69 PEOPLE BACK INTO LAOS AND HAVE TOLD THE LAO THAT THE BORDER WILL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL THE LAO AGREE TO ACCEPT THEM BACK.

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3. THE NONG KHAI GOVERNOR TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE HAD BEEN IN COMMUNICATION WITH THAI MFA ON THIS MATTER EVENING OF AUGUST 30.

4. EMBOFF CHAMBERLIN SAID THAT PRESS REPORTS BEING SENT TO BANGKOK FROM NONG KHAI CONTEND THAT REFUGEES BUY THEIR WAY OUT OF LAOS WITH FOREIGN CURRENCY WHICH IS

THEN USED BY THE LAO GOVERNMENT TO FINANCE CPT OPERATIONS IN THAILAND.

5. NONG KHAI GOVERNOR URGED VIENTIANE BASED DIPLOMATS TO CONTACT THEIR EMBASSIES TO ENCOURAGE THE LAO GOVERNMENT TO SEND A SPECIAL BOAT TO PICK UP STRANDED DIPLOMATS.

6. COMMENT: IT SEEMS FROM THE FOREGOING THAT THE GOVERNOR OF NONG KHAI, WHETHER OR NOT THAT IS HIS INTENTION, IS ACTING IN A MANNER TO EMBROIL MEMBERS OF THE VIENTIANE DIPLOMATIC CORPS IN A BILATERAL THAI/LAO DISPUTE, AS THE LPDR TRIED IN DECEMBER 1975. IT WOULD ALSO APPEAR THAT HE IS IN EFFECT HINDERING THEIR PASSAGE THROUGH THAI TERRITORY IN A MANNER CONTRARY TO ARTICLE 40 OF THE VIENNA CONVENTION. THERE WOULD FURTHER SEEM TO BE A HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM HERE INVOLVING THE 69 REFUGEES.

7. THAI EMBASSY VIENTIANE TELLS US THAT:

A. THAI HAVE CLOSED ONLY NONG KHAI.

B. THAI EMBASSY TRYING TO ARRANGE WITH LPDR FOREIGN MINISTRY FOR SPECIAL BOAT TO RETURN STRANDED DIPLOMATS FROM NONG KHAI TO LAO SIDE OF RIVER TODAY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BORDER CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977VIENTI01243
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770314-0601
Format: TEL
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977081/aaaaaahp.tel
Line Count: 94
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1393537
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NONG KHAI-THA DEUA BORDER POINT CLOSED
TAGS: PBOR, SHUM, PDIP, LA, TH
To: STATE BANGKOK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/134efb4d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009